

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 10465 121107Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00
SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 IO-13 OMB-01 TRSE-00 HA-05
BIB-01 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
/070 W

-----080951 121111Z /17

O R 121055Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1594
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA EOUU
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 10465

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PINS, CSCE, SHUM, UR
SUBJECT: ORLOV TRIAL TO BEGIN MAY 15
REF: MOSCOW 10454

1. POLITICAL COUNSELOR TELEPHONED DEPUTY DIRECTOR MFA
DIVISION SOKOLOV MID-DAY MAY 12 (FEDOSEYEV, WITH WHOM
MATTER ORIGINALLY DISCUSSED, IS ILL) REGARDING REPORT THAT
ORLOV TRIAL WILL COMMENCE MAY 15. POLCOUNS RECALLED HIS
MARCH 1 CONVERSATION WITH FEDOSEYEV REGARDING EMBASSY
ATTENDANCE AT POSSIBLE TRIALS OF SHCHARANSKIY, ORLOV AND
GINZBURG, ASKED THAT MFA CONFIRM UNOFFICIAL REPORT REGARD-
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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 10465 121107Z

ING TIMING OF ORLOV TRIAL, AND, IF TRIAL IS TO COMMENCE
MAY 15, THAT MFA FACILITATE ATTENDANCE BY EMBASSY OFFICER.

2. SOKOLOV RESPONDED "INFORMALLY" THAT EMBASSY REQUEST
WAS REGARDED AS "INTERFERENCE IN SOVIET INTERNAL AFFAIRS"
AND THAT HE HAD NOTHING FURTHER TO SAY ON THIS MATTER.

3. IN LIGHT OF SOKOLOV'S RESPONSE, WE SEE NO POINT IN PURSUING MATTER FURTHER WITH MFA. AS PER PARAGRAPH FOUR OF MOSCOW 02157, AND PENDING APPROVAL OF AMBASSADOR (WHO CURRENTLY TRAVELING WITH SECRETARY BERGLAND), WE PLAN TO SEND EMBASSY OFFICER TO REPORTED SITE OF ORLOV TRAIL ON MAY 15. IFV PRESENCE OF EMBASSY OFFICER IS QUESTIONED BY SOVIET AUTHORITIES, WE WILL TAKE LINE THAT SOVIET TRIALS ARE AS RULE OPEN, AND TO OUR KNOWLEDGE THERE IS NO PROHIBITION AGAINST ATTENDENCE BY DIPLOMATS AT OPEN TRIALS.
TOON

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Message Attributes

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